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The following are extracts from a translation of al-Mukawama (Struggle),
a pamphlet expounding the communist interpretation of current events, which
was issued in December 1946 for the indoctrination of communist-inclined
Egyptians.

The New Age

1. "The obvious result of the alliance between the Egyptian ruling class and imperialism is that the Egyptian people are being enslaved for the sake of the defense of universal imperialism. For this reason, the Egyptian people will struggle to rid themselves of foreign imperialism and its Egyptian supporters. Our liberty and independence will continue to be threatened until imperialism and its supporters are overthrown."

The Soviet Union

2. "Laws are continually being enacted in Egypt which deprive the people of their fundamental freedom. Expression of any opinion which is not in accordance with imperialism and exploitation, is discouraged by the police, prisons and by legislation. Egypt is forced to negotiate with an imperialistic country, in spite of protestations. People in the Soviet Union, on the other hand, are consulted before any legislation is enacted."
3. "There is also a great difference between the right of expressing one's opinion in the Soviet Union and the use of the same privilege in other countries, because such occasions offer the government a unique opportunity to judge the wishes of the people and their attitudes toward political and economic projects, before such projects are submitted to the High Council for acceptance or refusal. The Soviets urge all organizations, whether governmental or private, to hold a series of meetings which are devoted to the free discussion of policies proposed by the government. Endless discussions take place in every factory, field, syndicate, and in all Soviet public meetings on subjects of national legislation or general administration. Through these voluntary discussions people become well-informed and learn the principle of self-rule. In addition, these discussions help the administrative authorities to know the attitude of people who are interested in all legislation."

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4. "This policy, which was in effect when the Soviet Constitution was issued in 1936, made it possible for a government project to have the widest discussion known in history. Under public pressure, the first copies of the Constitution were distributed to various classes of the people. A total of 70,000,000 copies of the Constitution were distributed. It was also published in more than 10,000 newspapers, which have a circulation of more than 32,000,000 copies. Discussions took place in every farm, factory, school and worker's club and classes were formed for the study of the Constitution. In short, 527,000 meetings were held, which were attended by 36½ million persons, who made comments and suggested improvements. The Committee of the Constitution received 136 proposals for alterations from individuals and groups. These alterations were accepted, discussed and approved, when found reasonable and practical. Such opportunities are possible only in a real democracy.
5. "One objection to freedom of criticism is that it may hinder the power to invent. The publishing of criticisms in the press, moreover, may give the impression that the Soviets are unsuccessful. It may be of interest to note that most of the books, which are currently being published to prove that there is corruption, favoritism, or failure in the administration of industry and agriculture in the USSR, are taken from reports of the above-mentioned discussions which have appeared in the Soviet press, i.e. Pravda, the paper of the Communist Party, Izvestia, the paper of the government, and Tod, the Syndicalist paper, and other local publications. Considering the thousands of concerns which are organized every year in the capitalist countries, and their failure, from the workers' viewpoint, this criticism of the Soviet organizations is thought to be unfair.

The Wafd and the Rule

6. "We know that the Wafd is the only party in Egypt which derives its power from national support and not from the Palace. It is also the only party which does not maintain good relations with the Palace. Why, therefore, has it assumed power several times only to be dismissed from rule each time, and why has each Wafdist parliament been dissolved? These events indicate clearly that the Wafd always assumes power not because of its strength but because of the pressure of English imperialism. History shows that the Wafd is the only party which can influence the people and establish the order desired by imperialism.
7. "The Wafd has assumed power during the periods indicated below:
- 28 January 1924 - November 1924 - Under Sa'd Zaghlul;
during this period imperialism feared the growth of the laborers' movement in Egypt.
- June 1926 - April 1927 - A Coalition Cabinet under 'Adli Yegen.
- 25 April 1927 - 16 March 1928 - A Coalition Cabinet under 'Abd-al-Khalik Sarwat.

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16 March 1928 - 25 November 1929 - Under Mustafa al-Nahhas, in coalition with the Liberal Constitutionalists. Since there had been several workers' strikes in the country and a general strike in England, imperialism desired peace in Egypt.

1 January 1930 - 19 June 1930 - Under Nahhas. This was at the time of the worldwide depression.

9 May 1936 - 30 December 1937 - Under Nahhas. The international situation was extremely serious, especially in the Mediterranean. This was at the time of the Ethiopian and Spanish wars. There was the danger of a world war.

6 February 1942 - 8 October 1944 - Under Nahhas. The al-Alamein crisis occurred during this period.

The Double Rule in the Sudan

8. "Under the twin imperialistic systems, the Sudan is crushed and suffers poverty, ignorance and disease. When the Sudan was reoccupied in 1898 and the British, Egyptians and Turks were fighting together, the Sudan was suffering the effects of the rule of 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Mahdi. Under the guise of being soldiers in the Khedive's Army and carrying out his good-will, English imperialism completed its occupation of the Nile Valley. It was obvious that English occupation of Egypt and the Sudan was carried out for the purpose of guaranteeing the safety of the means of communications of the British Empire, Egypt being a vital route for maintaining the safety of India and British Colonies in the Far East, and the Sudan being vital for maintaining the means of communications of the British Empire in Central Africa. The revolt of the Mahdists and the independence of the Sudan hampered imperialistic policy because they jeopardized the railroad project which was expected to extend from Cairo to Capetown.
9. The English still cling to the right of invasion and claim that since they fought in the Sudan, they cannot withdraw until they have established lasting justice and prosperity in the area. What has imperialism done to achieve these objectives?

The Policy of Separation

10. "Imperialism manifested itself in the Sudan by establishing a policy aimed at separating the Sudanese and the Egyptians. It expressed false sympathy so that it might gain the support of the Sudanese. It continued to follow this policy and widened the schism between the Egyptians and the Sudanese and was aided by the history of the previous rule and the injustice which was spreading everywhere.

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11. "When the movement of 1924 took place, the Egyptians were turned out of the Sudan by a royal decree from the Sultan of Egypt, Ahmad Fu'ad, who was made King of Egypt by the British, and could not oppose British power, as is the case with the kings. In connection with this action, both the British and the King of Egypt failed completely to take into consideration either the prosperity of the Sudan and Egypt or their independence. They considered, instead, their own interests. This humiliating withdrawal of the Egyptians from the Sudan helped to weaken their position, and the Sudanese people, as well as the Egyptians, were unaware of the fact that the British imperialists and the Egyptian rulers had an agreement.
12. "British imperialistic policy, however, was revealed in increased injustices and curtailment of liberty, and the Sudan has continued to be vexed by military rule up to the present. The Sudanese Government resisted Egypt and prevented immigration to Egypt, especially student immigration.
13. "Imperialism is well aware that the question of the Nile Valley can be solved by liberation. It has created a struggle between Egypt and the Sudan because it cannot exist unless it breaks the bonds which unite these two countries. Dissatisfied with the separation of Egypt and the Sudan, imperialism has separated the Sudanese themselves, creating several Sudanese states, each remote from the others, i.e. it created the south of the Sudan and prohibited access to the area, except by special permission from the authorities. It has kept the inhabitants of the south in a primitive condition and has passed local laws which established the rate of workers' wages at no more than six millimes a day. There are, of course, no fixed working hours and the reason for this is that the south of the Sudan is rich in raw materials, and the imperialistic policy is to exploit production at the least possible expense. Similar exploitation exists in the northern and western parts of the Sudan.
14. "The government has established one secondary school, a few elementary schools, seven primary schools and so-called "high schools", with not more than thirty students. These schools were opened to stop the immigration of Sudanese students to Egypt, yet we know that graduates of Sudanese schools become imperialist tools for work in government offices.

Deceiving Symbols

15. "Although the Egyptian Government had stated that the Sudan would obtain independence, and has established an advisory council for the Sudan, the achievement of independence is extremely difficult. The members of the advisory council are appointed on the basis of class distinction by the Governor-General and include capitalists, presidents of tribes and high officials who are loyal to the government. At present the Sudanese government plans to change the advisory council to a Constitutional Congress and will attempt to form a Sudanese Government from this class. One of its misleading aims is "to Sudanize" the administration by making it a Sudanese administration.

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16. "The imperialists in the Sudan seldom consider the attitude of the Sudanese toward the Egyptians.
17. "The national movement in the Sudan, the foundation of "the Congress" and the unfair party structure will be discussed in subsequent articles.

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